

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 17-0132V

Filed: September 18, 2017

UNPUBLISHED

STEVE HELMS,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Special Processing Unit (SPU);
Ruling on Entitlement; Uncontested;
Causation-In-Fact; Influenza (Flu)
Vaccine; Shoulder Injury Related to
Vaccine Administration (SIRVA)

*Danielle A. Strait, Maglio Christopher & Toale, PA, Seattle, WA, for petitioner.
Kathryn A. Robinette, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.*

RULING ON ENTITLEMENT¹

Dorsey, Chief Special Master:

On January 30, 2017, petitioner filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*,² (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that he suffered a right shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”) after receiving an influenza vaccination on October 16, 2015. Petition at 1-3. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit (“SPU”) of the Office of Special Masters.

On September 15, 2017, respondent filed his Rule 4(c) Report in which he states that he does not contest that petitioner is entitled to compensation in this case. Rule 4(c) Report at 1. Specifically, respondent stated that petitioner’s alleged injury is consistent with SIRVA caused-in-fact by the administration of the flu vaccine he

¹ Because this unpublished ruling contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, the undersigned intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims’ website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, the undersigned agrees that the identified material fits within this definition, the undersigned will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all “§” references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

received on October 16, 2015. *Id.* at 4-5. Further, respondent did not identify any other causes for petitioner's SIRVA, and records show that petitioner suffered his condition for more than six months. *Id.* at 5. Therefore, based on the record as it now stands, petitioner has satisfied all legal prerequisites for compensation under the Act. *Id.*

In view of respondent's position and the evidence of record, the undersigned finds that petitioner is entitled to compensation.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Nora Beth Dorsey

Nora Beth Dorsey
Chief Special Master